

## Aurora County

Vacant/Andy Peterson



**Fishing report:** With the recent cold spell, Lakes, small sloughs and ponds have become frozen over. Hunters /Trappers/Fishermen are urged to use caution around these areas, the ice is not very thick yet. Hunters and Trappers that have pets with them around these areas are urged to use caution as well.



**Hunting report:** There has been a change this year regarding the January season. *ONLY* unfilled antlerless deer tags are valid from December 29 – January 6. Unfilled “any deer” tags do **not** convert and are not valid during this January season.

With the recent snow the opportunity to fill muzzleloader tags and archery tags. Deer will start moving to winter ranges and grouping up.

Rifle deer closed for now. Antlerless season will open Dec 29-Jan 8. The any deer tags are not valid during this season.

Pheasants should be easier to find with the recent snow. Reports have still been spotty as far as harvest goes.

Duck season closed on Tuesday Nov. 11. Canada Geese will be open through Sunday Dec 16. Still some geese around in the area.

## Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



**Fishing Report:** No report. Ice is building on area lakes, please use caution if you venture out.

**James River:**

**Lake Byron:**

**Cavour Lake:**



**Hunting Report:** Deer season is now closed until December 29th for the antlerless extension. Remember that "Any Deer" tags to not convert to "antlerless" tags this year and will not be a valid tag during that season.

Pheasant hunters are having ok success. With the recent snow the pheasants should be bunched up more and easier to find.

Most of the waterfowl have left the area; there may still be a few Canada Geese and Snow Geese passing through.

## Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



### **Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** All of the boat ramps in the county have been taken up and this cold snap has most of the bays frozen. Once the ice is thick enough to walk on the northern pike should be good this year.

**Lake Henry:** No report. **Remember bass must be 15 inches to keep.**



**Hunting Report:** Ducks and geese are frequenting many of the corn fields. Because of the low yields they are moving daily as the feed is not there to sustain them for long. Many ducks and geese are flying off Lewis and Clark Lake heading north to feed. Remember the duck season south of highway 50 closes on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Brookings County**

**Jeff Grendler**



### **Fishing Reports:**

**Brush Lake:** A few walleyes and few perch have been biting. Bite has been better during the mornings and late afternoon. Perch have been small with a very occasional 10-12 inches. Anglers have been fishing along the south side of the lake. Most walleyes have been small.

Ice is just starting to build. Heavy snow this last weekend stalled making of ice on the lakes so there may be pockets of really bad ice on the lakes. Anglers should use caution.

### **Poinsett:**

**Lake Albert:**

**Lake Hendricks:**



**Hunting Report:** Pheasant season has slowed down. Most of the birds have now moved into the heavier cover.

Waterfowl have moved out of the area. Only waterfowl left has been along the highway 81 corridor from Lake Sinai to Lake Whitewood. Some good snow geese pass shooting might still be available.

## **Clay County**

**Tony Stokely**



**Fishing Report:** A few walleye and sauger are being caught on the river if you can brave the cold weather.



**Hunting Report:** Duck and goose numbers are GOOD on the river. They should remain so until the next cold front. Archery and muzzleloaders are still active. Coyote hunters need to obtain permission.

## **Davison County**

**Andy Petersen**



**Fishing Report:** With the recent cold spell, Lakes, small sloughs and ponds have become frozen over. Hunters /Trappers/Fishermen are urged to use caution around these areas, the ice is not very thick yet. Hunters and Trappers that have pets with them around these areas are urged to use caution as well.

**Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.**

**Lake Mitchell:** No report

**James River:** No report



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Rifle deer closed for now. Antlerless season will open Dec 29-Jan 8. The any deer tags are not valid during this season.

Pheasants should be easier to find with the recent snow. Reports have still been spotty as far as harvest goes.

Duck season closed on Tuesday Nov. 11. Canada Geese will be open through Sunday Dec 16. Still some geese around in the area.

## Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



**Fishing Report:** With the recent cold spell, Lakes, small sloughs and ponds have become frozen over. Hunters /Trappers/Fishermen are urged to use caution around these areas, the ice is not very thick yet. Hunters and Trappers that have pets with them around these areas are urged to use caution as well.

**Lake Hanson:** No report

**Ethan Dam:** No report

**James River:** No report



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With the recent snow the opportunity to fill muzzleloader tags and archery tags. Deer will start moving to winter ranges and grouping up.

Rifle deer closed for now. Antlerless season will open Dec 29-Jan 8. The any deer tags are not valid during this season.

Pheasants should be easier to find with the recent snow. Look for the heaviest cover in the field and you should be able to find birds. Reports have still been spotty as far as harvest goes.

Duck season closed on Tuesday Nov. 11. Canada Geese will be open through Sunday Dec 16. Still some geese around in the area. With the snow cover the geese have really been flying through. The snow geese have been pushing through fairly consistently since the snow arrived. Large groups of Canada geese can be found in certain areas so do your scouting.

## Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing:** No activity observed with water frozen but not strong enough to walk on.



**Hunting:** Pheasants have been tough to find but with the weather changing, look for areas with the most cover to increase your chances.

# Jerauld County

Vacant/Chris Kuntz



**Fishing Report:** No report. Ice is building on area lakes, please use caution if you venture out.



**Hunting Report:** Deer season is now closed until December 29th for the antlerless extension. Remember that "Any Deer" tags do not convert to "antlerless" tags this year and will not be a valid tag during that season.

Pheasant hunters are having ok success. With the recent snow the pheasants should be bunched up more and easier to find.

Most of the waterfowl has left the area; there may still be a few Canada Geese and Snow Geese passing through.

# Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



**Fishing Reports:** No report. Beware of ice conditions. Area lakes froze over on Sunday.

**Lake Thompson:**

**West 81:**

**Lake Whitewood:**

**Lake Henry:**

**Lake Albert:**

**Spirit Lake:**



**Hunting Report:** Recent blizzard forced waterfowl out of the area over the weekend. A few small flocks of Canada geese have still been seen in the area. Area lakes are frozen over. Little to no pheasant hunting pressure.

# Lake County

Cody Symens



**Fishing Report:** The majority of Lake County water bodies are covered with ice due to the recent cold snap. Anglers need to use extreme caution while fishing; ice conditions are inconsistent ranging from open water to a few inches thick.

**Lake Madison:**

**Lake Herman:**

**Brant Lake:**



**Hunting Report:**

**Waterfowl:** Duck season closed on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Canada goose season closes on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Snow goose season closes on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. There are still pockets of geese in the western half of Lake County.

**Pheasants:** The pheasant season is open through January 6, 2013. Hunters continue to struggle finding birds; however, with the recent snowfall and weather conditions it should group the birds and provide more opportunity.

**Deer:** Muzzleloader season is open from Dec. 1-Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. Hunters have been having fair success. With recent snowfall, deer should be bunching up making for better opportunities. Archery season is open until Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. **All unfilled ARCHERY AND MUZZLELOADER licenses convert to antlerless on Jan. 1.**

ONLY ANTLERLESS DEER TAGS are valid during the antlerless season extension which will reopen on Dec 29<sup>th</sup> and runs through Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



**Fishing Report:** No activity observed.

**Big Sioux:**

**Hudson:**

**Lake Alvin:**



**Hunting Report:** There are a few pockets of geese around but most are heading south. Pheasant hunters have to be willing to work hard to find birds.

## McCook County

Matt Talbert



**Fishing Report:**

**Lake Vermillion:** The Lake is iced over but the ice is not thick enough to walk on.

**Island Lake:**



**Hunting Report:** Pheasant hunting can get better with snow if you know what to do. The birds can be a little spooky but they are easy to find. Just look for the densest cover available usually cattails and you will find the birds in groups.

With the snow cover the geese have really been flying through. The snow geese have been pushing through fairly consistently since the snow arrived. Large groups of Canada geese can be found in certain areas so do your scouting.

## Miner County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** All bodies of water are frozen. Ice may not be strong enough yet so use caution if going out.



**Hunting Report:** All waterfowl have moved south. Archery and muzzleloader seasons are still open. Reminder that no person may use a snowmobile to chase, harass, or disturb any wild animals.

## Minnehaha County

Jeremy Rakowicz/Jared Hill/Jeremy Roe



**Fishing Report:** Fishing activity has been slow with the water being frozen. Be careful walking out on the ice with the warmer temperatures, most ice isn't strong enough yet.

**Big Sioux:**

**Family Park:**

**Island:**

**Scotts:**

**Beaver:**

**Twin Lake: REMEMBER THE LIMIT IS 1 WALLEYE, 28 inch minimum length.**

**Wall:**



**Hunting Report:** Most of the waterfowl have pushed south. There are still some big Canada's around but most have migrated south. Pheasant hunters should look to heavy cover areas.

## Moody County

Chad Williams



**Fishing Report:** No activity. With area lakes starting to freeze over, please be very cautious of thin ice.

**Big Sioux River:**

**Brant:** See Lake County.



**Hunting Report:** Pheasant hunters have been having best success in late afternoon. East river deer season closed on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and will reopen for antlerless tags on December 29<sup>th</sup> through January 6<sup>th</sup>. Hunters are reminded that any deer tags **DO NOT** convert to antlerless tags.

**Trapping:** Seems to be more trapping activity this year with problems of trap tampering and theft. If you have traps that have been tampered with or stolen please report to your local Conservation Officer.

## Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** All bodies of water are frozen. Ice may not be strong enough yet so use caution if going out.



**Hunting Report:** All waterfowl have moved south. Archery and muzzleloader seasons are still open. Reminder that no person may use a snowmobile to chase, harass, or disturb any wild animals.

## Turner County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing Report:** No activity observed with water frozen but not strong enough to walk on.



**Hunting:** Pheasants have been tough to find but with the weather changing, look for areas with the most cover to increase your chances.

## Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



**Fishing Report:** A few walleye and sauger are being caught on the river if you can brave the cold weather.



**Hunting Report:** Duck and goose numbers are GOOD on the river. They should remain so until the next cold front. Archery and muzzleloaders are still active. Coyote hunters need to obtain permission.

## Yankton County

Sam Schelhaas



**Fishing Report:**

**Marindahl:** No Activity Observed

**Lewis and Clark:** No Activity Observed

**James River:** No Activity Observed

**Lake Yankton:** No Report from Lake Yankton This week

**Missouri River:** Walleye fishing has been slow



**Hunting Report:** Duck and goose numbers are great on the river if you can find the pockets they are in. All the northern birds have pushed south to the river until the next cold snap.

Region 3 updates.